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Reporting Category

No Reporting Category entered.

Log No: 1077328 Type:U

Attachments

No.	Type	Related Person	No. of Pages	Narrative	Original in File	Entered By	Entered Date/Time	Status	Approve Content?	Approve Inclusion?
View 1	FACE SHEET	N/A	-	-	-	STEWART, DENISE	SEP-25-2015 21:15	-	-	-
View 2	CONFLICT CERTIFICATION	N/A	-	-	-	HUNT, JOSHUA	OCT-07-2015 10:24	-	-	-
View 3	CONFLICT CERTIFICATION	N/A	-	-	-	WHITE, LAKENYA	OCT-15-2015 14:22	-	-	-
View 4	REPORT (OTHER)	N/A	5	PRELIMINARY REPORT, RD# HY-438368 AGGRAVATED ASSAULT U# 15-023	-	HOWARD, MIA	OCT-16-2015 10:41	APPROVED	-	YES
View 5	CONSENT FOR AUDIO RECORDED INTERVIEW	N/A	1	SIGNED BY [REDACTED]	-	HOWARD, MIA	OCT-16-2015 10:42	APPROVED	-	YES
View 6	AUDIO INTERVIEW	N/A	1	[REDACTED]	YES	WHITE, LAKENYA	FEB-03-2016 11:21	APPROVED	-	YES
View 7	SWORN AFFIDAVIT - NOT REQUIRED	N/A	1	SIGNED BY [REDACTED]	-	HOWARD, MIA	OCT-16-2015 10:43	APPROVED	-	YES
View 8	INTERVIEW - WITNESS	N/A	44	TRANSCRIBED STATEMENT OF [REDACTED]	-	HOWARD, MIA	OCT-16-2015 10:45	APPROVED	-	YES
View 9	TO/FROM REPORT	N/A	1	U# 15-23, POSTMORTEM EXAMINATION OF DECEASED [REDACTED]	-	HOWARD, MIA	OCT-16-2015 10:47	APPROVED	-	YES
View 10	GENERAL OFFENSE CASE REPORT	N/A	3	DETECTIVE SUP. SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL, RD# HY438368	-	HOWARD, MIA	OCT-16-2015 10:48	APPROVED	-	YES
View 11	GENERAL OFFENSE CASE REPORT	N/A	4	CLASSIFICATION COMPLETED BY SYSTEM, RD# HY438368	-	HOWARD, MIA	OCT-16-2015 10:49	APPROVED	-	YES
View 12	TACTICAL RESPONSE REPORT (TRR)	N/A	2	OFFICER RAMEY #14991	-	HOWARD, MIA	OCT-16-2015 10:49	APPROVED	-	YES
View 13	OFFICERS BATTERY REPORT	N/A	2	OFFICER RAMEY #14991	-	HOWARD, MIA	OCT-16-2015 10:50	APPROVED	-	YES
View 14	TACTICAL RESPONSE REPORT (TRR)	N/A	3	OFFICER SEHNER #11641	-	HOWARD, MIA	OCT-16-2015 10:51	APPROVED	-	YES
View 15	OFFICERS BATTERY REPORT	N/A	2	OFFICER SEHNER #11641	-	HOWARD, MIA	OCT-16-2015 10:51	APPROVED	-	YES
View 16	TACTICAL RESPONSE REPORT (TRR)	N/A	2	OFFICER CRONIN #11828	-	HOWARD, MIA	OCT-16-2015 10:52	APPROVED	-	YES
View 17	OFFICERS BATTERY REPORT	N/A	2	OFFICER CRONIN #11828	-	HOWARD, MIA	OCT-16-2015 10:53	APPROVED	-	YES
View 18	TACTICAL RESPONSE REPORT (TRR)	N/A	2	OFFICER CHOATE #10941	-	HOWARD, MIA	OCT-16-2015 10:53	APPROVED	-	YES
View 19	OFFICERS BATTERY REPORT	N/A	2	OFFICER CHOATE #10941	-	HOWARD, MIA	OCT-16-2015 10:54	APPROVED	-	YES
View 20	CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT EVENT QUERY	N/A	5	EVENT# 1526816880, EVENT# 1526817335	-	HOWARD, MIA	OCT-16-2015 10:55	APPROVED	-	YES
View 21	O.E.M.C. (OEMC) REQUEST/HOLD	N/A	1	MEDIA/DATA REQUEST FOR AUDIO OF 911 CALLS, CPD RADIO TRANSMISSIONS, CAD EVENT QUERIES/UNIT HISTORY	-	HOWARD, MIA	OCT-16-2015 10:56	APPROVED	-	YES
View 22	REPORT (OTHER)	N/A	4	EMS INCIDENTS RECORD REQUEST FORM, [REDACTED]	-	HOWARD, MIA	OCT-16-2015	APPROVED	-	YES

View	23	REQUEST FOR PHOTOS	N/A	1	-	-	HOWARD, MIA	10:57 OCT-16-2015 10:59	APPROVED -	YES
View	24	CRIME SCENE PROCESSING REPORT	N/A	6	REPORT# 284395	-	HOWARD, MIA	10:59 OCT-16-2015 10:59	APPROVED -	YES
View	25	CRIME SCENE PROCESSING REPORT	N/A	2	REPORT# 284461	-	HOWARD, MIA	11:00 OCT-16-2015 11:00	APPROVED -	YES
View	26	REPORT (OTHER)	N/A	1	DIAGRAM OF SCENE, NOT TO SCALE	-	HOWARD, MIA	11:01 OCT-16-2015 11:01	APPROVED -	YES
View	27	REPORT (OTHER)	N/A	1	COPY OF ENVELOPE, CRIME SCENE FOOTAGE	-	HOWARD, MIA	11:02 OCT-16-2015 11:02	APPROVED -	YES
View	28	AUDIO INTERVIEW	OTHER INV. PARTY - CRONIN, ERIC	1	-	YES	WHITE, LAKENYA	10:42 FEB-09-2016 10:42	APPROVED -	YES
View	29	REPORT (OTHER)	N/A	35	TRANSCRIBED STATEMENT OF OFFICER CRONIN	-	HOWARD, MIA	11:03 OCT-16-2015 11:03	APPROVED -	YES
View	30	AUDIO INTERVIEW	OTHER INV. PARTY - CHOATE, HEATH	1	-	YES	WHITE, LAKENYA	10:44 FEB-09-2016 10:44	APPROVED -	YES
View	31	REPORT (OTHER)	N/A	46	TRANSCRIBED STATEMENT OF AN OFFICER HEATH CHOATE	-	HOWARD, MIA	11:05 OCT-16-2015 11:05	APPROVED -	YES
View	32	AUDIO INTERVIEW	OTHER INV. PARTY - SEHNER, ERIC	1	-	YES	WHITE, LAKENYA	10:45 FEB-09-2016 10:45	APPROVED -	YES
View	33	REPORT (OTHER)	N/A	51	TRANSCRIBED STATEMENT OF OFFICER ERIC SEHNER	YES	HOWARD, MIA	11:17 OCT-16-2015 11:17	APPROVED -	YES
View	34	REPORT (OTHER)	N/A	1	COMPELLED STATEMENTS RIGHTS, OFFICER RAMEY #14991	-	HOWARD, MIA	11:18 OCT-16-2015 11:18	APPROVED -	YES
View	35	AUDIO INTERVIEW	OTHER INV. PARTY - RAMEY, CHRISTOPHER	1	-	YES	WHITE, LAKENYA	10:46 FEB-09-2016 10:46	APPROVED -	YES
View	36	REPORT (OTHER)	N/A	38	TRANSCRIBED STATEMENT OF OFFICER CHRISTOPHER RAMEY	-	HOWARD, MIA	11:19 OCT-16-2015 11:19	APPROVED -	YES
View	37	LETTER TO VICTIM	N/A	2	ADDRESSED TO THE FAMILY OF [REDACTED]	-	HOWARD, MIA	11:20 OCT-16-2015 11:20	APPROVED -	YES
View	38	REPORT (OTHER)	N/A	2	REQUEST FOR MEDICAL RECORDS, M.E. CASE# 2015-04141	-	HOWARD, MIA	11:25 OCT-16-2015 11:25	APPROVED -	YES
View	39	REPORT (OTHER)	N/A	1	LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIAL'S REQUEST FOR PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION, MT. SINAI HOSPITAL - [REDACTED]	-	HOWARD, MIA	11:28 OCT-16-2015 11:28	APPROVED -	YES
View	40	REPORT (OTHER)	N/A	1	LETTER ADDRESSED TO OFFICER RAMEY #14991	-	HOWARD, MIA	11:31 OCT-16-2015 11:31	APPROVED -	YES
View	41	REPORT (OTHER)	N/A	1	LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIAL'S REQUEST FOR PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION, MT. SINAI HOSPITAL - HEATH CHOATE	-	HOWARD, MIA	11:32 OCT-16-2015 11:32	APPROVED -	YES
View	42	IAD SYNOPSIS REPORT	N/A	13	SYNOPTIC REPORT - FIREARMS DISCHARGE INCIDENT (WITH HITS)	-	HOWARD, MIA	11:35 OCT-16-2015 11:35	APPROVED -	YES
View	43	TO/FROM REPORT	N/A	1	REQUEST FOR COPY OF MIN REPORT	-	HOWARD, MIA	11:36 OCT-16-2015 11:36	APPROVED -	YES
View	44	TASER DEPLOYMENT DATA SHEET (DOWNLOAD)	N/A	5	-	-	HOWARD, MIA	11:37 OCT-16-2015 11:37	APPROVED -	YES
View	45	PHOTOGRAPH	N/A	161	PHOTOS OF CRIME SCENE	-	HOWARD, MIA	11:46 OCT-16-2015 11:46	APPROVED -	YES
View	46	PHOTOGRAPH	N/A	35	CRIME SCENE MARKERS	-	HOWARD, MIA	11:38 OCT-16-2015 11:38	APPROVED -	YES
View	47	PHOTOGRAPH	N/A	29	PHOTOS OF [REDACTED]	-	HOWARD, MIA	11:39 OCT-16-2015 11:39	APPROVED -	YES
View	48	PHOTOGRAPH	N/A	5	PHOTOS OF OFFICER RAMEY	-	HOWARD, MIA	11:39 OCT-16-2015 11:39	APPROVED -	YES
View	49	PHOTOGRAPH	N/A	4	PHOTOS OF OFFICER SEHNER	-	HOWARD, MIA	11:40 OCT-16-2015 11:40	APPROVED -	YES
View	50	PHOTOGRAPH	N/A	9	PHOTOS OF OFFICER CHOATE	-	HOWARD, MIA	OCT-16-	APPROVED -	YES

View	51	PHOTOGRAPH	N/A	4	PHOTOS OF OFFICER CRONIN	-	HOWARD, MIA	2015 11:42 OCT-16- 2015 11:44	APPROVED -	YES
View	52	PHOTOGRAPH	N/A	1	Diagram 1	YES	WHITE, LAKENYA	OCT-21- 2015 12:46	APPROVED -	YES
View	53	PHOTOGRAPH	N/A	2	Diagram 2	YES	WHITE, LAKENYA	OCT-21- 2015 12:46	APPROVED -	YES
View	54	PHOTOGRAPH	N/A	1	Diagram 3	YES	WHITE, LAKENYA	OCT-21- 2015 12:47	APPROVED -	YES
View	55	CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT EVENT QUERY	N/A	14	-	YES	WHITE, LAKENYA	OCT-21- 2015 14:12	APPROVED -	YES
View	56	O.E.M.C. (OEMC) TRANSMISSIONS	N/A	1	OEMC CD - Not Uploaded	YES	WHITE, LAKENYA	OCT-21- 2015 14:13	APPROVED -	YES
View	57	PHOTOGRAPH	N/A	1	Morgue CD - Subject [REDACTED]	YES	BRUMFIELD, LUCILLE	NOV-05- 2015 12:45	APPROVED -	YES
View	58	PHOTOGRAPH	N/A	43	Morgue photos of [REDACTED]	YES	BRUMFIELD, LUCILLE	NOV-05- 2015 12:49	APPROVED -	YES
View	59	MEDICAL RECORDS	N/A	35	Mt. Sinai Hospital; Patient: [REDACTED]	-	BRUMFIELD, LUCILLE	NOV-05- 2015 12:51	APPROVED -	YES
View	60	REPORT (OTHER)	OTHER INV. PARTY - CHOATE, HEATH	4	Law Enforcement Official's Request for Protected Health Information	YES	BRUMFIELD, LUCILLE	NOV-05- 2015 12:52	APPROVED -	YES
View	61	CERTIFIED MAIL RECEIPT	N/A	1	-	YES	WHITE, LAKENYA	DEC-11- 2015 14:24	APPROVED -	YES
View	62	POSTMORTEM REPORT	N/A	14	-	YES	WHITE, LAKENYA	JAN-20- 2016 11:41	APPROVED -	YES
View	63	DETECTIVE SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT	N/A	23	-	YES	WHITE, LAKENYA	JAN-20- 2016 11:42	APPROVED -	YES
View	64	REPORT (OTHER)	N/A	3	FaceSheet, Log #1079117	YES	WHITE, LAKENYA	FEB-10- 2016 10:39	APPROVED -	YES
View	65	COURT DOCUMENTS (E.G., CIVIL COMPLAINTS, BOND SLIPS)	N/A	18	Civil Suit #16 CV 00951	YES	WHITE, LAKENYA	FEB-10- 2016 10:40	APPROVED -	YES
View	66	INVESTIGATOR CASE LOG	N/A	1	Log #1079117	YES	WHITE, LAKENYA	FEB-10- 2016 10:41	APPROVED -	YES
View	67	REPORT (OTHER)	N/A	1	Request for Training Records	YES	WHITE, LAKENYA	FEB-10- 2016 10:46	APPROVED -	YES
View	68	REPORT (OTHER)	N/A	4	Training Records Report	YES	WHITE, LAKENYA	MAR-29- 2016 15:07	APPROVED -	YES
View	69	ILLINOIS STATE POLICE FORENSIC SCIENCE CENTER (REPORT)	N/A	6	Not Official Copy	YES	WHITE, LAKENYA	MAR-29- 2016 15:08	APPROVED -	YES
View	70	ILLINOIS STATE POLICE FORENSIC SCIENCE CENTER (REPORT)	N/A	3	-	YES	WHITE, LAKENYA	APR-12- 2016 15:17	APPROVED -	YES
View	71	CONFLICT CERTIFICATION	N/A	-	-	-	QUERFURTH, PATRICK	APR-21- 2016 12:09	-	-
View	72	MEDICAL RECORDS	N/A	4	Additional Autopsy Report Info	YES	WHITE, LAKENYA	JUL-14- 2016 09:50	APPROVED -	YES
View	73	REPORT (OTHER)	N/A	35	Medical Examiner report and autopsy photos on disc; Photos already uploaded; See att. #58	YES	WHITE, LAKENYA	JUL-27- 2016 09:58	APPROVED -	YES
View	74	ILLINOIS STATE POLICE FORENSIC SCIENCE CENTER (REPORT)	N/A	2	-	YES	WHITE, LAKENYA	JUL-21- 2017 12:47	APPROVED -	YES
View	75	TO/FROM REPORT	N/A	1	-	YES	WHITE, LAKENYA	MAR-09- 2018 12:30	APPROVED -	YES
View	76	ILLINOIS STATE POLICE FORENSIC SCIENCE CENTER (REPORT)	N/A	2	-	YES	WHITE, LAKENYA	MAR-09- 2018 12:30	APPROVED -	YES

View	77	REPORT (OTHER)	N/A	3	MIN Report	YES	WHITE, LAKENYA	APR-12-2018 09:53	APPROVED -	YES
View	78	INVENTORY SHEET	N/A	2	-	YES	WHITE, LAKENYA	JUN-12-2018 15:56	APPROVED -	YES
View	79	ATTENDANCE AND ASSIGNMENT RECORD	N/A	10	-	YES	WHITE, LAKENYA	JUN-12-2018 16:04	APPROVED -	YES
View	80	INVESTIGATOR CASE LOG	N/A	6	-	YES	WHITE, LAKENYA	OCT-15-2018 13:54	APPROVED -	YES
View	-	SUMMARY REPORT	N/A	17	-	NO	JAVIER, MARKANTHONY	OCT-15-2018 15:26	APPROVED -	YES

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Internal Use Only

No Internal Use Only attachments available.

Print Accused Appeal Forms

No Accused Appeal forms available for this Log No.

Related Incidents

☒ **TIP** Related Incidents listed below are for reference only. These may be viewed using the related application search screens.

Log No./Tracking No.	Type	Comments
1079117	RELATED - DUPLICATE LOG NO.	The civil suit in Log #1079117 pertains to the incident under Log #1077328/U#. Therefore, Log #1079117 is being administratively closed, and the civil suit will be incorporated into the investigation under Log #1077328/U#.

row(s) 1 - 1 of 1

Status History

☒ **TIP** Every employee included in the Status History is subject to be called for legal or administrative proceedings.

Resulting Status	Status Date/Time	Created By	Position	Employee No.	Assigned/ Detailed Unit	Comments
CLOSED/FINAL	17-OCT-2018 14:25	KERSTEN, ANDREA	DEPUTY CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR		113 / -	-
CLOSED AT C.O.P.A.	17-OCT-2018 14:20	KERSTEN, ANDREA	DEPUTY CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR		113 / -	-
PENDING C.O.P.A. COORDINATOR REVIEW	15-OCT-2018 15:27	JAVIER, MARKANTHONY	SUPERVISING INV COPA		113 / -	-
PENDING INVESTIGATIVE REVIEW	15-OCT-2018 14:43	WHITE, LAKENYA	INTAKE AIDE		113 / -	-
PENDING INVESTIGATION	21-APR-2016 12:09	QUERFURTH, PATRICK	SUPERVISING INV COPA		113 / -	-
PENDING ASSIGN INVESTIGATOR	19-APR-2016 14:11	THOMAS, KELLY	SYSTEMS PROGRAMMER		113 / -	-
PENDING INVESTIGATION	07-OCT-2015 10:24	HUNT, JOSHUA	SUPERVISING INV COPA		113 / -	-
PENDING ASSIGN INVESTIGATOR	05-OCT-2015 12:02	STOUTENBOROUGH, ANDREA	SUPERVISING INV COPA		113 / -	-
PENDING ASSIGN TEAM	28-SEP-2015 08:26	QUERFURTH, PATRICK	SUPERVISING INV COPA		113 / -	-
PENDING SUPERVISOR REVIEW	28-SEP-2015 07:42	QUERFURTH, PATRICK	SUPERVISING INV COPA		113 / -	-
PRELIMINARY	28-SEP-2015 07:42	QUERFURTH, PATRICK	SUPERVISING INV COPA		113 / -	-
PRELIMINARY	28-SEP-2015 07:24	QUERFURTH, PATRICK	SUPERVISING INV COPA		113 / -	location code
PENDING SUPERVISOR REVIEW	26-SEP-2015 01:03	OLVERA, MARIA	SUPERVISING INV COPA		113 / -	-
PRELIMINARY	25-SEP-2015 21:15	STEWART, DENISE	INTAKE AIDE		113 / -	-

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Command Channel Reviewers

No Command Channel Reviewers have been assigned.

SUMMARY REPORT OF INVESTIGATION¹**I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Date of Incident:	September 25, 2015
Time of Incident:	8:53 p.m.
Location of Incident:	████████████████████ Avenue, Chicago, IL
Date of COPA Notification:	September 25, 2015
Time of COPA Notification:	9:15 p.m.

On September 25, 2015, at approximately 8:50 p.m., Officers Ramey and Sehner responded to a call of a disturbance with a mentally ill subject, ██████████ (██████████) at ██████████ Avenue, Chicago, IL. Upon arrival, the officers met with ██████████ mother, ██████████ (██████████) who stated that ██████████ was “acting crazy,” had a knife, and would not come out of his bedroom. Officers Ramey and Sehner, along with assisting Officers Choate and Cronin, entered the residence and knocked on ██████████ bedroom door. ██████████ opened the bedroom door while holding a knife in his hand. The officers ordered ██████████ to drop the knife, but he did not comply. ██████████ exited his bedroom and approached Officer Ramey as he stood in the kitchen, which was adjacent to the bedroom. Officer Sehner attempted to tase ██████████ but the Taser did not appear to have any effect on ██████████ continued to approach Officer Ramey, while still holding the knife in his hand, at which time Officer Ramey discharged his firearm five times, striking ██████████ several times about the body. ██████████ was declared dead at 2133 hours at Mt. Sinai hospital. COPA’s investigation demonstrates that Officer Ramey’s use of deadly force complied with Chicago Police Department rules and directives.

II. INVOLVED PARTIES

Involved Officer #1:	RAMEY, Christopher, star # 14991, Employee ID# ██████████ Date of Appointment: October 05, 2012, Chicago Police Officer, Unit of Assignment: 011, DOB: ██████████ Male White.
Involved Individual#1:	████████████████████ DOB: ██████████ Male, Black.

¹ On September 15, 2017, the Civilian Office of Police Accountability (COPA) replaced the Independent Police Review Authority (IPRA) as the civilian oversight agency of the Chicago Police Department. Therefore, this investigation, which began under IPRA, was transferred to COPA on September 15, 2017, and the recommendation(s) set forth herein are the recommendation(s) of COPA.

III. ALLEGATIONS

Officer	Allegation	Finding
Officer Ramey	No allegation of Misconduct	Use of deadly force was within CPD policy.

IV. INVESTIGATION²

a. Interviews

In an interview with IPRA on September 25, 2015, Witness ██████ stated she is the mother of ██████. On the date of the incident, ██████ called 911 and requested the police take ██████ to Loretto Hospital because ██████ suffered from schizophrenia and had stopped taking his medication.⁴ The police responded to the scene and ██████ explained that ██████ had mental health problems and needed to go to the hospital. The officers asked ██████ if ██████ had any weapons and she told them that ██████ had a little box cutter that he carried for protection. ██████ explained that ██████ carried the box cutter because he had been “jumped on” by some boys down the street from his home. ██████ escorted the officers inside her residence and showed the officers ██████ bedroom.

Once at ██████ bedroom door, ██████ heard ██████ stating, “Goddamit, you know I don’t care ‘bout shit.” According to ██████ she believed ██████ made the statement because he was listening to rap music. One officer, Officer Sehner, approached ██████ bedroom door and took out a “yellow thing.”⁵ Another officer, Officer Ramey, knocked on the bedroom door and ██████ stated, “Who is it?” Officer Ramey told ██████ to come out as he stood on the right side of ██████ bedroom door. Officer Sehner stood near the stove in the kitchen, which was near ██████ bedroom, while a third officer stood behind a table in the kitchen.⁶ ██████ stood in the hallway approximately four feet away from Officer Sehner. ██████ exited his bedroom and stated, “What the fuck is all this?” while holding a box cutter in his right hand.

██████ approached Officer Ramey.⁷ Officer Ramey yelled “pull out the Taser” as he started to walk backwards. ██████ then heard gunshots and observed Officer Ramey discharge his firearm. Officer Sehner had his Taser out, but also pulled out and discharged his firearm. ██████

² COPA conducted a thorough and complete investigation. The following is a summary of the material evidence gathered and relied upon in our analysis.

³ Attachment 8

⁴ ██████ did not know how long it had been since ██████ took his medication.

⁵ Now identified as a Taser.

⁶ ██████ stated there were four officers in her home, but she could not remember the fourth officer or where he was standing.

⁷ During ██████ statement, she initially stated that she believed ██████ went into his pocket and retrieved the box cutter. ██████ then recanted and stated she was not sure if ██████ had the box cutter in his hand as he approached Officer Ramey.

“jumped” in her bedroom, which was next to [REDACTED] bedroom, as [REDACTED] fell to the floor. When the gunshots were over, [REDACTED] ran out of her bedroom toward the front door. [REDACTED] exited the front door and screamed, “They shot my baby. They killed my baby.” [REDACTED] stated she did not observe any officer use a Taser on [REDACTED]

In an **interview with IPRA** on October 6, 2015, **Witness Officer Eric Cronin, #11828,**⁸ stated that on September 25, 2015, he and Officer Choate responded as backup to a call of a person with a knife. Upon arrival, Officer Cronin observed Officers Ramey and Sehner talking to [REDACTED] in front of [REDACTED] Avenue, but he did not hear the details of the conversation. Officer Cronin heard someone (now known to be [REDACTED]) yelling from inside the house. Officer Cronin did not know what [REDACTED] was yelling. Officer Cronin proceeded inside the residence behind Officers Ramey, Sehner, Choate, and [REDACTED]. Once inside, [REDACTED] followed Officers Ramey and Sehner and directed the officers to [REDACTED] bedroom. [REDACTED] told an officer, either Officer Ramey or Officer Sehner, that he would not need “that” because [REDACTED] only had a box cutter. Officer Cronin stated he did not know what “that” meant but he assumed [REDACTED] was referring to a firearm. The officers continued to approach [REDACTED] bedroom. As Officer Cronin approached [REDACTED] bedroom, he heard [REDACTED] yelling “come through.”

Officers Ramey and Sehner approached [REDACTED] bedroom door. Officer Cronin stated Officers Ramey and Sehner were in the kitchen because it was adjacent to [REDACTED] bedroom. Officer Ramey knocked on [REDACTED] bedroom door and announced his office.⁹ Officer Ramey then told Officer Sehner to take out his Taser. [REDACTED] went into her bedroom, and Officer Choate stood next to [REDACTED] bedroom door and told her to stay in her room. Officer Cronin stated he stood near the bathroom door, which was across from [REDACTED] bedroom and adjacent to the kitchen.

Officer Ramey attempted to push [REDACTED] bedroom door open, but a t-shirt was wedged in the door. [REDACTED] then exited his bedroom while holding his hands up in the air and walked toward Officer Ramey. Officer Cronin described [REDACTED] arms as being bent at his front. Officer Cronin stated he could only see [REDACTED] back because [REDACTED] immediately walked toward Officer Ramey as if Officer Ramey was a “target.”

Officer Cronin heard an officer yelling “knife, knife, knife” and the “pop” of a Taser. Officer Cronin did not know who yelled “knife, knife, knife” and did not observe who deployed the Taser. The Taser did not appear to have any effect on [REDACTED] because [REDACTED] continued to advance toward Officer Ramey. Officer Ramey moved toward the back door as [REDACTED] continued to advance toward him. Officer Cronin could not observe what Officer Ramey was doing because [REDACTED] blocked his view. Officer Cronin heard three gunshots and [REDACTED] fell to the floor. Officer Cronin did not observe who discharged a firearm.

While [REDACTED] was on the floor, Officer Cronin observed a cutting instrument in [REDACTED] right hand. Officer Cronin did not observe [REDACTED] left hand. Officer Cronin described the cutting instrument as a two to three-inch razor blade with a handle. [REDACTED] continued to move his entire body on the floor while clenching the cutting instrument. Officer Sehner told [REDACTED] to “drop the

⁸ Attachment 29

⁹ Officer Cronin stated he lost sight of Officer Sehner because Officer Sehner stood near the stove area around a corner.

knife.” [REDACTED] did not comply and Officer Sehner deployed his Taser a second time. Officer Cronin then radioed, “shots fired by the police.” Officer Cronin stated that [REDACTED] blocked his view of Officer Ramey’s firearm, which prevented Officer Cronin from observing Officer Ramey discharge his firearm.

In an **interview with IPRA** on October 6, 2015, **Witness Officer Heath Choate, #10941**,¹⁰ stated that on September 25, 2015, he and Officer Cronin responded to a call of a disturbance with a mentally ill subject. Officer Choate recalled that the dispatcher reported that [REDACTED] said that her son, [REDACTED] had a knife and was hearing voices. Officers Choate and Cronin responded to the scene and observed Officers Ramey and Sehner speaking with [REDACTED] on the porch. Officers Choate and Cronin exited their vehicle and followed behind Officers Ramey and Sehner and [REDACTED] as they walked into [REDACTED] residence. Once inside the residence, [REDACTED] told the officers that [REDACTED] was in his bedroom. At that time, Officer Ramey told Officer Sehner to take out his Taser. Officer Choate recalled that Officer Ramey took out his firearm as they walked into the residence and [REDACTED] told Officer Ramey that he was not going to need the firearm because [REDACTED] only had a knife.

Officer Choate heard someone talking inside the residence, but he could not understand anything specifically. [REDACTED] attempted to get ahead of the officers, but Officer Choate told her to go into the bedroom, which was approximately six feet east of [REDACTED] bedroom. Officer Choate stated he did not have time to walk [REDACTED] outside of the residence and come back in because he believed “things might happen fast, or you know somethin’ might happen.”¹¹ [REDACTED] complied with Officer Choate’s orders, and Officer Choate stood in front of the doorway to her bedroom. Officer Ramey stood to the west of [REDACTED] bedroom door, while Officer Sehner was perpendicular to [REDACTED] bedroom door.¹²

Officer Ramey attempted to open [REDACTED] bedroom door, while announcing “Chicago Police open the door.” Officer Choate continued to hear unintelligible talking and background noise coming from [REDACTED] bedroom. [REDACTED] bedroom door swung open. Officer Choate did not know how the door opened. [REDACTED] exited his bedroom immediately, without any pause, and went straight towards Officer Ramey with a knife in his right hand. Officer Choate stated [REDACTED] exited the room with his right arm extended somewhat and slightly raised above his pelvis with a knife in his right hand. Officer Choate described the knife’s blade as a “couple of inches long.” Officer Choate was unable to see the handle.

Officer Choate began moving forward. As Officer Choate moved forward, he heard Officer Ramey state, “Drop the knife,” three times and observed Taser wires “shoot out” from Officer Sehner’s Taser. Officer Choate did not know if the Taser wires made contact with [REDACTED]. Officer Ramey backed away from [REDACTED] until he could no longer back up. Officer Ramey then discharged his firearm at [REDACTED]. Officer Choate heard three to four gunshots and felt a bullet strike his foot. Officer Choate believed he was shot and stepped back toward [REDACTED] bedroom door.

¹⁰ Attachment 31

¹¹ Page 9, lines 29-30

¹² Officer Choate stated Officers Ramey and Sehner were both in the kitchen at that time.

█████ fell forward and down to the ground. █████ exited the bedroom hysterically and attempted to go toward the kitchen, but Officer Choate told her to go outside.

Officer Choate stated █████ did not have a view of the incident because he was blocking the bedroom door and she was inside the bedroom. Officer Choate stated Officer Ramey told him █████ had a knife in each hand, but Officer Choate only observed one knife in █████ right hand. Officer Choate did not know if anything was in █████ left hand because he did not have a vantage point to see his left hand. Officer Choate stated a bullet struck the tongue of his right shoe and the left side of his pants, but he was not injured. Officer Choate went to Mt. Sinai Hospital as a precaution.

In an **interview with IPRA** on October 6, 2015, **Witness Officer Eric Sehner, #11641,**¹³ stated that on September 25, 2015, he and Officer Ramey heard a call of a person with a knife go over the air. Officers Sehner and Ramey both decided to go to the location of incident to assist. When they arrived, Officers Ramey and Sehner met with █████ who stated that she wanted her son, █████ escorted to Loretto Hospital. █████ also stated that █████ had a box cutter. Officers Choate and Cronin arrived, and all the officers went inside █████ residence.

Inside the residence, █████ directed the officers toward the rear bedroom, which was █████ bedroom. Officer Ramey removed his firearm from his holster, and █████ told him that he would not need that because █████ only had a knife. When the officers reached █████ bedroom door, Officer Ramey holstered his firearm and Officer Sehner pulled out his Taser. Officers Ramey and Sehner knocked on █████ bedroom door and announced that they were the police. █████ was saying unintelligible words and had an agitated tone. Officer Sehner stated the only thing he could make out was █████ stating, "Come on through," repeatedly.

At that point, Officers Sehner and Ramey were standing in the kitchen because it was adjacent to █████ bedroom. Officer Sehner recalled that Officers Choate and Cronin were standing to his left side. Officer Sehner was not sure where █████ was because he did not have eyes on her. Officer Ramey attempted to open █████ bedroom door. Officer Sehner stated he stood next to Officer Ramey and took a step back as Officer Ramey attempted to push open █████ bedroom door. Officer Ramey could not get the door open right away due to an obstruction in the door.¹⁴ Officer Ramey was able to open █████ bedroom door after two attempts. Once the door opened, █████ immediately "charged out" with a knife in his right hand. Officer Sehner described the knife as a folding knife that had a blade two to three inches long.

Officer Sehner yelled "drop the knife, drop the knife" and started to back away from █████ █████ initially "charged" in Officer Sehner's direction, but then changed directions and "charged" toward Officer Ramey. Officer Ramey moved backward while facing █████ Officer Sehner discharged his Taser at █████ but the Taser had no noticeable effect on █████ Officer Sehner stated he did not know if the Taser prongs connected with █████ body. Officer Ramey continued to back away from █████ until he could not back up any further. Officer Ramey drew

¹³ Attachment 33

¹⁴ Officer Sehner stated he later learned that a t-shirt was wedged in the doorway.

his firearm and discharged three shots at [REDACTED].¹⁵ Officer Sehner stated that [REDACTED] was only an arm's length away from Officer Ramey when Officer Ramey discharged his firearm.¹⁶

[REDACTED] fell to the floor in a prone position with his right arm extended in front of his body, still holding the knife in his right hand with a closed fist. Officer Sehner Tasered [REDACTED] again by activating the ARC switch on the Taser.¹⁷ Officer Sehner stated the Taser wires appeared to be attached to [REDACTED] body, but he could not see where the Taser probes made contact with him. Officer Sehner stated the reason that he activated his ARC switch was because he believed [REDACTED] was still a threat to Officer Ramey, who was standing directly in front of [REDACTED] and was within striking distance. After the activation of the ARC switch, [REDACTED] did not drop the knife, so Officer Sehner yelled for him to "drop the knife" again. Officer Sehner determined at that time that [REDACTED] was still a threat so he discharged a second Taser cartridge.

The second Taser cartridge appeared to have an effect on [REDACTED] because his body tensed up. After the five second Taser cycle¹⁸ was over, [REDACTED] body appeared to relax, but he still had a tight grip on the knife in his right hand. Officer Sehner yelled "drop the knife" again. [REDACTED] did not comply and Officer Sehner Tasered him again using the Taser ARC switch. [REDACTED] still did not drop the knife. Officer Ramey then cautiously approached [REDACTED] and removed the knife from his right hand. Officer Sehner stated he believed he discharged two Taser cartridges and activated the Taser ARC switch twice. After removing the knife from [REDACTED] right hand, Officer Ramey placed the knife on a kitchen table. An ambulance was requested, and [REDACTED] was transported away from the scene. Officer Sehner stated after the incident Officer Ramey told him [REDACTED] had a knife in his left hand. Officer Sehner stated he did not see the knife in [REDACTED] left hand because of the way [REDACTED] was positioned and because he (Officer Sehner) was focused on the knife in [REDACTED] right hand.

In an **interview with IPRA** on October 7, 2015, **Involved Officer Christopher Ramey, #14991**,¹⁹ stated that on September 25, 2015, he and Officer Sehner responded to a domestic disturbance regarding a person with a knife. When the officers arrived on the scene, they spoke to [REDACTED] who told the officers she wanted her son, [REDACTED] taken to Loretto Hospital because he had mental health issues. Officer Sehner asked [REDACTED] if [REDACTED] had any weapons, and [REDACTED] stated that [REDACTED] kept a knife in his pocket. Approximately one to two minutes later, Officers Choate and Cronin arrived on the scene. All the officers then proceeded to walk into [REDACTED] residence.

Inside the residence, Officer Ramey placed his hand on his firearm due to the nature of the call being a person with a knife.²⁰ [REDACTED] told Officer Ramey that he would not need his firearm because [REDACTED] only had a knife. Officers Ramey and Sehner approached [REDACTED] bedroom door, which was adjacent to the kitchen. Officer Choate placed [REDACTED] in a nearby bedroom and Officer Cronin stood by the bathroom door in the hallway.

¹⁵ Officer Sehner stated he later learned Officer Ramey discharged his firearm five times.

¹⁶ The Medical Examiner's report indicates that there was no evidence of close range firing on the skin surrounding the entrance wounds to [REDACTED] body. See Attachment 73.

¹⁷ (ARC) - Arc display/Re-energize/Cartridge advance

¹⁸ When the Taser trigger is pressed and released there is a five-second energy cycle.

¹⁹ Attachment 36

²⁰ Officer Ramey stated that he does not believe he had removed his firearm from his holster at that point.

Officer Ramey knocked on [REDACTED] bedroom door and announced police. [REDACTED] stated words to the effect of “come on in” a couple of times. Officer Ramey described [REDACTED] tone as aggressive, and it sounded as if he may have been suffering from some mental health problems as [REDACTED] mentioned. Officer Ramey attempted to push open and turn the handle on [REDACTED] bedroom door, but the door would not open. Officer Ramey then observed a black t-shirt or cloth jammed in the doorframe, which prevented the door from opening. Officer Ramey placed his hand on his firearm and told Officer Sehner to take out his Taser. Officer Ramey stated he stood to the west of [REDACTED] bedroom door while Officer Sehner stood in front of the door about five feet away.

At that time, Officer Ramey pushed open [REDACTED] bedroom door. [REDACTED] stood a couple of feet back from the door, holding a knife in each hand. Officer Ramey stated that [REDACTED] had a knife with a brown handle in his right hand and a bluish gray knife in his left hand. The knife with the brown handle appeared to be five inches long, from the blade to the end of the handle, and the bluish gray knife appeared to have a two to three-inch blade. [REDACTED] exited his bedroom at a very fast pace and walked in Officer Ramey’s direction causing Officer Ramey to back up. Officer Ramey stated [REDACTED] arms were extended, just above his waistline, with a bend in his arms.

As Officer Ramey backed up, he yelled “drop it” and withdrew his firearm. Officer Ramey’s back hit a spice rack in the kitchen. When Officer Ramey could no longer back up, he discharged his firearm three to four times.²¹ Officer Ramey stated he discharged his firearm from his armpit and his body was turned to his left side to defend himself from the blades of the knives. Officer Ramey stated when he discharged his firearm, [REDACTED] was an arm length away.

[REDACTED] fell to the ground, and Officer Ramey attempted to grab the brown knife out of [REDACTED] right hand. Officer Ramey stated that he does not remember if he took the blue knife out of [REDACTED] left hand, or if someone else did. [REDACTED] would not let go of the knife in his right hand and Officer Sehner Tasered him. Officer Ramey was then able to remove the knife from [REDACTED] right hand and place it on a kitchen table. Officer Ramey did not observe or hear Officer Sehner deploy his Taser prior to discharging his firearm. Officer Ramey stated he only observed Officer Sehner deploy his Taser when [REDACTED] fell to the floor. After Officer Ramey placed the knife on the kitchen table, he reported via Chicago Police Department (CPD) radio “shots fired by the police.” Officer Ramey stated he was not carrying a Taser during the incident.

b. Digital Evidence

Office of Emergency Management and Communications²² records document that on September 25, 2018, at 08:50 p.m., [REDACTED] [REDACTED] called 911 and reported the following:²³

Call Taker: Chicago Emergency, Hicks

²¹ Officer Ramey stated he later learned he discharged his firearm five times.

²² Attachment 56

²³ The transcription was performed by COPA Major Case Specialist LaKenya White, #046, and is not verbatim.

■ Hi, can I get someone out here, and if you can, can you get a sheriff and a white shirt because I have a mental son here and he's threatening me, talking about what he gonna do, and I think he got a little box cutter in his pocket, but umm...if they come they gonna take him to Norwegian Hospital and his doctor said he needs to get to Loretto, that's the only way they can pick him up and take him back to the mental hospital.

Call Taker: You gonna have to tell that to them when they get there.

■ Ok, please.

Call Taker: Ok and what kind...you say he has a history of mental illness?

■ Yes, he do.

Call Taker: What's his name?

■

Call Taker: How old is he?

■ He's 34.

Call Taker: Is he violent?

■ He cursing and stuff talking about what he gonna do.

Call Taker: Well cursing is not violent.

■ Well he acting like he is cause when I went in the bathroom, I had poured....he sprayed bleach everywhere and so he had bleach all on the toilet, so I poured my pop I the toilet. He gonna talk about somebody pissed all over the toilet. You peed On the toilet bitch get this shit up, get it up bitch, and he went in his pocket like he had that switch blade and say, say one more thing, I'll take care of you and I said no you ain't ■ And I eased away from him and I came in the front and he went back in that room and so I call my brother and them, they say they was coming over here.

Call Taker: Ok. ■ on the first floor?

■ Yes ma'am.

Call Taker: And you're ■

■ Yes, I am.

Call Taker: Does he have a weapon or you think that he has one?

██████████ I know he got ayou know the box cutter that you can open up a box with.

Call Taker: Yes, but does he have it?

██████████ It's in his pocket, but he's not gonna use it, you know you don't have to come in with no guns or nothing. They just need to get him out here and if I can get him to Loretto cause I been.....umm...the rehabilitation center he was living at, they say the only way they can pick him back up cause Norwegian they keep letting him out. He done snuck out of there so many times.....

Call Taker: Like I already said, you have to tell the police that when they get there.

██████████ Ok. Ok.

Call Taker: What's your telephone number ma'am?

████████████████████

Call Taker: Alright, be looking out for the police.

██████████ Thank you ma'am.

Beat 1112 was initially assigned to respond to the call, but Beats 1121 (Officers Ramey and Sehner) and Beat 1123 (Officers Choate and Cronin) responded to the scene. Dispatch provided the following information prior to the officers responding: "██████████ person with a knife, ██████████ stated her son, ██████████ 34 years old, has a history of mental, he threatened her, he has a box cutter in his pocket. Nothing further."

Evidence Technician Photographs and Video²⁴ depict the scene and the recovered evidence.

c. Physical Evidence

A **Chicago Fire Department Ambulance Report**²⁵ documented that Ambulance 15 arrived at the scene on September 25, 2015 at approximately 9:03 p.m. ██████████ was lying supine on the kitchen floor. ██████████ was unresponsive and apneic with no detectable pulses. CPR was initiated. ██████████ had a gunshot wound to his left upper chest, right upper chest, right forearm, and right upper leg. ██████████ also had two Taser prongs imbedded, one Taser prong in his left flank and one in his stomach. ██████████ was transported to Mt. Sinai Hospital and arrived there at approximately 9:27 p.m.

²⁴ Attachments 27, 45-51

²⁵ Attachment 22

Medical Records from Mt. Sinai Hospital²⁶ document that on September 25, 2015, [REDACTED] received treatment for multiple gunshot wounds. [REDACTED] was pronounced expired at 9:33 p.m.

The Office of the Medical Examiner (M.E.) Report of Portmortem Examination²⁷ for [REDACTED] Case # ME2015 – 04141, by Dr. Jon Gates, documents that there were seven entrance wounds.²⁸ [REDACTED] had two entrance gunshot wounds on the left side of his chest, an entrance gunshot wound on the posterior of his left forearm, an entrance gunshot wound on the medial of his right arm, two entrance gunshot wounds to his anterior right forearm, and an entrance gunshot wound to his anterior right thigh.

The report also noted that four barbed conducted electrical weapon electrodes with attached wires were recovered from [REDACTED] body. The toxicology report documented that [REDACTED] tested negative for substances. The cause of death was multiple gunshot wounds and the manner of death was homicide.

CPD Crime Scene Processing Reports²⁹ #284395 and 284461 document the evidence identified, collected, and inventoried in connection with this incident. A list of pertinent items relevant to the IPRA/COPA investigation is as follows:

Inventory #13538349 and #13538354 contained a recovered “Techni-edge” gray box cutter with an extended blade and a stainless gray colored utility folding knife with an extended blade, both of which were recovered on a kitchen table; Inventory #13538276 was five (5) WIN 9mm Luger +P fired cartridge cases recovered in the kitchen,³⁰ Inventory #13538339 was a Taser X2 gun recovered from a kitchen table, and two deployed cartridges with wires removed from the Taser X2; Inventory #13538446 consisted of Officer Ramey’s gun, a Glock model 17,³¹ 9mm semi-automatic pistol. There were 12 WIN 9mm Luger +P unfired cartridge cases removed from the magazine and one WIN 933 Luger +P caliber unfired cartridge case removed from the chamber. Inventory #13539008 consisted of two bullets, two fired bullet jacket fragments, and one fired bullet fragment which were all recovered from [REDACTED] body at the Cook County Medical Examiner Office.

Illinois State Police (ISP) Forensic Science Laboratory Report dated December 30, 2015, documents that Officer Ramey’s gun, a Glock model 17, 9mm semi-automatic pistol, Serial #TTG163 was operable. The two fired bullets and a fired bullet fragment, Inventory #13539008, recovered from [REDACTED] body were fired from Officer Ramey’s firearm. The two fired bullet jacket fragments were also examined, but it could not be determined if they were fired from Officer Ramey’s firearm.

²⁶ Attachment 59

²⁷ Attachment 62

²⁸ One bullet can cause more than one entrance wound if it exits and then re-enters the body.

²⁹ Attachments 24-25

³⁰ Four (4) of the WIN 9mm Luger +P fired cartridge cases were recovered on the kitchen floor and one (1) WIN 9mm Luger +P fired cartridge case was recovered on a chair cushion in the kitchen.

³¹ The Glock had a capacity of seventeen plus one in the chamber.

An ISP report dated June 8, 2017, documents that a box cutter, Inventory #13538349, was examined and measured approximately 15.5 centimeters in length, and the blade measured 1.6 centimeters in length and up to 1.0 centimeters in width. A box cutter (utility folding knife), Inventory #13538354, was examined and measured approximately 16.5 centimeters in length, and the blade measured 2.0 centimeters in length and up to 1.7 centimeters in width.

An ISP report dated December 19, 2017 documents that a swab from the box cutter, Inventory #13538349, was not profiled. Two swabs from the box cutter (utility folding knife), Inventory #13538354, were examined. One swab (blood indicated) was examined and a human male DNA profile was identified from which [REDACTED] cannot be excluded. The second swab did not identify any human DNA profile.³²

d. Documentary Evidence

An **Original Case Incident Report**³³ for Assault – Aggravated Police Officer: Knife/Cut Instrument documents the summary of the incident. The case report added that [REDACTED] was holding a box cutter in each hand.

The **Case Supplementary Report**³⁴ provides in essence the same information provided by Officers Ramey, Sehner, Choate, and Cronin. The case report added that Officer Ramey observed Officer Sehner deploy his Taser when [REDACTED] exited his bedroom. In addition, Officer Ramey told detectives that Officer Sehner removed the bluish gray knife from [REDACTED] left hand after he, Officer Ramey, removed the brown knife from [REDACTED] right hand. Officer Sehner told detectives that he observed [REDACTED] armed with a box cutter and another object that he could not see when he exited his bedroom. After Officer Ramey recovered the box cutter from [REDACTED] right hand, Officer Sehner recovered a folding utility knife from [REDACTED] left hand.

Detectives also interviewed [REDACTED] told detectives that once she escorted the officers in her residence, she was instructed to wait in her bedroom. She then heard yelling and four to five gunshots. [REDACTED] then exited her bedroom and saw [REDACTED] lying on the kitchen floor.

The **Taser Download Sheet**³⁵ documented the use of Officer Sehner's Taser on September 25, 2015. A summary of that information is as follows:

- 20:56:05 hours - the Taser was armed.
- 20:56:06 hours - the Taser was deployed by trigger for a duration of five seconds.
- 20:56:21 hours - the Taser was deployed by the ARC switch for a duration of one second.
- 20:56:22 hours - the Taser was deployed by trigger for a duration of five seconds.

³² Attachments 70, 74, 76

³³ Attachment 11

³⁴ Attachment 63

³⁵ Attachment 44

- 20:56:28 hours - the Taser was deployed by the ARC switch for a duration of five seconds.
- 20:59:43 hours – the Taser was placed in safe mode.

A **Tactical Response Report (TRR)** completed by **Officer Ramey**³⁶ documents that [REDACTED] did not follow verbal direction, presented an imminent threat of battery, attacked with a weapon, and used force likely to cause death or great bodily harm. Officer Ramey responded with member's presence, verbal commands, and the discharge of his firearm. Officer Ramey discharged his firearm five (5) times.

A **Tactical Response Report (TRR)** completed by **Officer Sehner**³⁷ documents that [REDACTED] did not follow verbal direction, presented an imminent threat of battery, attacked with a weapon, and used force likely to cause death or great bodily harm. Officer Sehner responded with member's presence, verbal commands, his Taser probe discharge, and activated arc switch.

A **Tactical Response Report (TRR)** completed by **Officer Cronin**³⁸ documents that [REDACTED] did not follow verbal direction, presented an imminent threat of battery, attacked with a weapon, and used force likely to cause death or great bodily harm. Officer Cronin responded with member's presence.

A **Tactical Response Report (TRR)** completed by **Officer Choate**³⁹ documents that [REDACTED] did not follow verbal direction, presented an imminent threat of battery, attacked with a weapon, and used force likely to cause death or great bodily harm. Officer Choate responded with member's presence.

The **Officer's Battery Report (OBR)** completed by **Officer Ramey**⁴⁰ documents that he responded to a disturbance – mental patient, in uniform, on September 25, 2015, at 9:04 p.m., at [REDACTED] Avenue. The subject, [REDACTED] had a knife/other cutting instrument. Officer Ramey did not sustain any injuries.

The **Officer's Battery Report (OBR)** completed by **Officer Sehner**⁴¹ documents that he responded to a disturbance – mental patient, in uniform, on September 25, 2015, at 9:04 p.m., at [REDACTED] Avenue. The subject, [REDACTED] had a knife/other cutting instrument. Officer Sehner did not sustain any injuries.

The **Officer's Battery Report (OBR)** completed by **Officer Cronin**⁴² documents that he responded to a disturbance – mental patient, in uniform, on September 25, 2015, at 9:04 p.m., at [REDACTED] Avenue. The subject, [REDACTED] had a knife/other cutting instrument. Officer Cronin did not sustain any injuries.

³⁶ Attachment 12

³⁷ Attachment 14

³⁸ Attachment 16

³⁹ Attachment 18

⁴⁰ Attachment 13

⁴¹ Attachment 15

⁴² Attachment 17

The **Officer's Battery Report (OBR)** completed by **Officer Choate**⁴³ documents that he responded to a disturbance – mental patient, in uniform, on September 25, 2015, at 9:04 p.m., at [REDACTED] Avenue. The subject, [REDACTED] had a knife/other cutting instrument. Officer Choate did not sustain any injuries.

CPD's Bureau of Internal Affairs conducted **alcohol and drug tests**⁴⁴ of Involved Officer Christopher Ramey on September 26, 2015, beginning at 12:47 a.m., and the tests revealed no drugs or alcohol in his system.

Chicago Police Department Training Records⁴⁵ document that Officers Sehner, Ramey, Choate, and Cronin did not have Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training at the time of the incident.

The **IPRA Preliminary Report** and the **CPD's Major Incident Notification (MIN) Report** both contain information identified and obtained in the preliminary stages of the investigation.⁴⁶

V. ANALYSIS

Based on the totality of the circumstances, the use of deadly force by Officer Ramey against [REDACTED] was objectively reasonable. A preponderance of the evidence demonstrates that [REDACTED] presented an imminent threat of death or great bodily harm to Officer Ramey by rapidly approaching Officer Ramey with a box cutter in his right hand. Officer Ramey was backed against a wall and did not have the option to retreat as [REDACTED] continued to advance on Officer Ramey with a box cutter. As such, the use of deadly force by Officer Ramey was objectively reasonable and **within Department policy** as outlined by the Chicago Police Department's General Order 03-02-03, II. Officer Ramey's use of force also complied with applicable Illinois state statute and constitutional standards.

a. Legal Standard

The applicable Chicago Police Department directive is General Order 03-02-03, II,⁴⁷ which states that a sworn member is justified in using force likely to cause death or great bodily harm only when he or she reasonably believes that such force is necessary:

1. To prevent death or great bodily harm to the sworn member or to another person, or;
2. To prevent an arrest from being defeated by resistance or escape and the sworn member reasonably believes that the person to be arrested:

⁴³ Attachment 19

⁴⁴ Attachment 42

⁴⁵ Attachment 68

⁴⁶ Attachment 4 and 77

⁴⁷ This report references the version of General Order 03-02-03 in effect on September 25, 2015.

- a) has committed or has attempted to commit a forcible felony which involves the infliction, threatened infliction, or threatened use of physical force likely to cause death or great bodily harm or;
- b) is attempting to escape by use of a deadly weapon or;
- c) otherwise indicates that he will endanger human life or inflict great bodily harm unless arrested without delay.

In addition, the use of deadly force is codified under 720 ILCS 5/7-5 (1986). The pertinent part of the statute states that:

...a peace officer, or any person whom he has summoned or directed to assist him, need not retreat or desist from efforts to make a lawful arrest because of resistance or threatened resistance to the arrest. He is justified in the use of any force which he reasonably believes to be necessary to affect the arrest and of any force which he reasonably believes to be necessary to defend himself or another from bodily harm while making the arrest. However, he is justified in using force likely to cause death or great bodily harm only when he reasonably believes that such force is necessary to prevent death or great bodily harm to himself or such other person...

720 ILCS 5/7-5 (1986).

Finally, determinations regarding the potential use of excessive force in the course of an arrest, investigatory stop, or other seizure are properly analyzed under the Fourth Amendment's objective reasonableness standard. The question is whether the officer's actions are objectively reasonable in light of the facts and circumstances confronting them, without regard to their underlying intent or motivation. *Graham v. Connor*, 490 U.S. 386, 397 (1989). See *Estate of Phillips v. City of Milwaukee*, 123 F.3d 586, 592 (7th Cir. 2003). The following factors are instructive in making the determination of whether an officer's use of force is reasonable: (1) "the severity of the crime at issue;" (2) "whether the suspect poses an immediate threat to the safety of the officers or others;" and (3) "whether he is actively resisting arrest or attempting to evade arrest by flight." *Graham*, 490 U.S. at 396 (citing *Tennessee v. Garner*, 471 U.S. 1, 8-9 (1985)). This reasonableness calculation "must embody allowance for the fact that police officers are often forced to make split second judgments—in circumstances that are tense, uncertain, and rapidly evolving—about the amount of force that is necessary in a particular situation." *Graham*, 490 U.S. at 396-97. Consequently, "when an officer believes that a suspect's actions [place] him, his partner, or those in the immediate vicinity in imminent danger of death or serious bodily injury, the officer can reasonably exercise the use of deadly force." *Muhammed v. City of Chicago*, 316 F.3d 380, 383 (7th Cir. 2002) (quoting *Sherrod v. Berry*, 856 F.2d 802, 805 (7th Cir. 1988) (*en banc*) (omitting emphasis)).

b. Officer-Involved Shooting

There is a preponderance of evidence demonstrating that Officer Ramey reasonably believed that deadly force was necessary to prevent [REDACTED] from causing death or great bodily harm to him.

First, at the time of the officer-involved shooting, Officer Ramey knew from the dispatcher that [REDACTED] was in possession of a box cutter, had a history of mental illness, and had threatened [REDACTED].⁴⁸ [REDACTED] also directly told Officer Ramey that [REDACTED] had a knife and that she wanted the officers to take [REDACTED] to Loretto Hospital for mental health treatment. Therefore, Officer Ramey had a reasonable basis to believe that [REDACTED] was armed and dangerous.

Second, the evidence demonstrates that [REDACTED] rapidly approached Officer Ramey with a box cutter in his right hand while ignoring repeated verbal commands to drop the knife.⁴⁹ Specifically, Officers Sehner, Choate, and Cronin corroborated Officer Ramey's statement that [REDACTED] approached Officer Ramey with a box cutter in his right hand. [REDACTED] also initially stated that she observed [REDACTED] with a box cutter after he exited his bedroom. Under these circumstances, [REDACTED] would reasonably appear to be threatening Officer Ramey with death or great bodily harm, especially considering Officer Ramey's preexisting knowledge about [REDACTED] allegedly threatening [REDACTED] with the box cutter and [REDACTED] history of mental illness. *See Jones v. Town of Highland Ind.*, 204 F. Supp. 3d 1030 (N.D. Ind. 2016) (granting summary judgment to defendants on § 1983 excessive force and Monell claims, as well as a state law wrongful death claim, because it was reasonable for an officer to employ deadly force where the decedent's mother informed the officer that her son had schizophrenia and had threatened her with a knife earlier, two Taser deployments did not subdue the decedent when he engaged in a physical struggle against the police, and the decedent had an officer backed up against a door while wielding a baton as a weapon). Courts in multiple jurisdictions have found police use of deadly force justified against an individual wielding a box cutter. *See Wood v. City of Lakeland*, 203 F.3d 1288, 1293 (11th Cir. 2000) (holding a police shooting reasonable because the decedent's movement toward the officers with a box-cutter in hand posed a threat of "imminent death or great bodily harm"); *Njang v. Montgomery County*, 279 Fed. Appx. 209, 215 (4th Cir. 2008) (holding that a "reasonable officer would indeed have concluded that the threat posed" by a man steadily advancing upon her with a box cutter justified shooting him); *Del Castillo v. City of Tempe*, No. CV-14-01945-PHX-DLR, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 161037 at *7 (D. Ariz. Nov. 18, 2016) (holding that use of deadly force was justified because "it was objectively reasonable" for an officer to believe a man advancing toward him with a box cutter "posed an immediate threat to himself, the other officers, or to the public").

Third, although a preponderance of the evidence does not demonstrate that [REDACTED] was actually within arm's length of Officer Ramey, a preponderance of the evidence including witness testimony, the location of the shell casings, the dimensions of the kitchen and layout of the furniture, and the blood stains demonstrates that [REDACTED] was only a short distance from Officer

⁴⁸ Officer Ramey did not know the full context of [REDACTED] phone call with the 911 operator. However, the relevant consideration in evaluating Officer Ramey's use of force is the information provided to him by the dispatcher or other sources.

⁴⁹ Officer Ramey stated that [REDACTED] also had a knife in his left hand as he approached, but no other officer corroborated Officer Ramey's statement on this issue. Officer Ramey also did not recall Officer Sehner discharging his Taser prior to his use of deadly force. There are also some inconsistencies between Officer Ramey's statements to the detective as documented in the detective supplemental report and his statement to IPRA investigators. Although COPA does not believe Officer Ramey intentionally provided a false statement to IPRA investigators or to the detectives, Officer Ramey's ability to fully and accurately recall the incident is highly questionable. Accordingly, COPA gave no weight to the parts of Officer Ramey's statement that were not corroborated by other evidence such as the statements of witness officers, [REDACTED] or the physical evidence.

Ramey and still approaching at the time Officer Ramey discharged his firearm. Importantly, Officer Ramey had no reasonable avenue of escape and could not use time or distance to de-escalate the situation. Officer Ramey retreated until his back was against a movable shelving unit located against the far west wall in the kitchen and Officer Ramey was otherwise surrounded by the back door or other barriers. Therefore, Officer Ramey had to make an immediate decision about the amount of force to use in a situation that was tense, uncertain, and rapidly evolving.

VI. CONCLUSION

In its totality, the evidence demonstrates that an officer with similar training and experience as Officer Ramey would reasonably believe that [REDACTED] posed an immediate threat of death or serious bodily harm and that the use of deadly force was necessary to prevent death or great bodily harm to himself. Accordingly, Officer Ramey's use of deadly force was objectively reasonable and complied with Chicago Police Department's General Order 03-02-03, the Illinois state statute and the Fourth Amendment.

Officer	Allegation	Finding
Officer Ramey	No allegation of Misconduct	Use of deadly force was within CPD policy.

Approved:

[REDACTED]
Sydney Roberts
Chief Administrator

10/15/18
Date

Appendix A

Assigned Investigative Staff

Squad#:	7
Major Case Specialist	LaKenya White
Supervising Investigator:	Mark Javier
Acting Deputy Chief Administrator:	Erica Sangster